

Support to Beirut – Mid-term Evaluation Report

Introduction:

The Lebanese Evaluation Association is assisting an initiative entitled ‘Help families in Beirut – A personal fundraiser’ by providing evaluation for their intervention.

On August 4th, 2020, at 6:07 pm, a massive explosion of 2,700 tons of ammonium nitrate happened at the port of Beirut, Lebanon, destroying a large part of the city, killing more than 200 people, injuring more than 3000 and leaving thousands homeless. Moreover, Lebanon has been under an economic crisis since the end of 2019, with its national currency losing 78% of its value to date. The crisis is accentuated by a worldwide pandemic, the covid-19.

The initiative came from 2 persons that could not stand still and needed to provide support for their families and fellow citizens: Mrs. Neyla Bend and Mr. Charbel Ghostine. Neyla launched a fundraiser on Facebook, the social media platform raising some 35,000 USD.

The budget was allocated as following:

1. **Rehabilitation before winter:** 10,000 USD for 3 to 20 houses with volunteers depending on the needs and cost of material
2. **Food boxes:** 15,000 USD for families. Each food box will contain: oil, flour, sugar, lentils, rice, beans, dry food cans, milk, First aid kits, Masks, sanitizers, paracetamol...
3. **Coordination:** 3,000 USD for Sim card recharge for volunteers, fuel for transportation or Taxi, Cleaning Materials, Masks, first aid kits
4. **Back up Money:** \$3,000 used for emergencies and in case "man day" for workers is asked. The rest of the back up money will be added whether to point 1 or point 2 or 5 depending on the needs
5. **Banking and Facebook fees:** 4,000\$ approximately

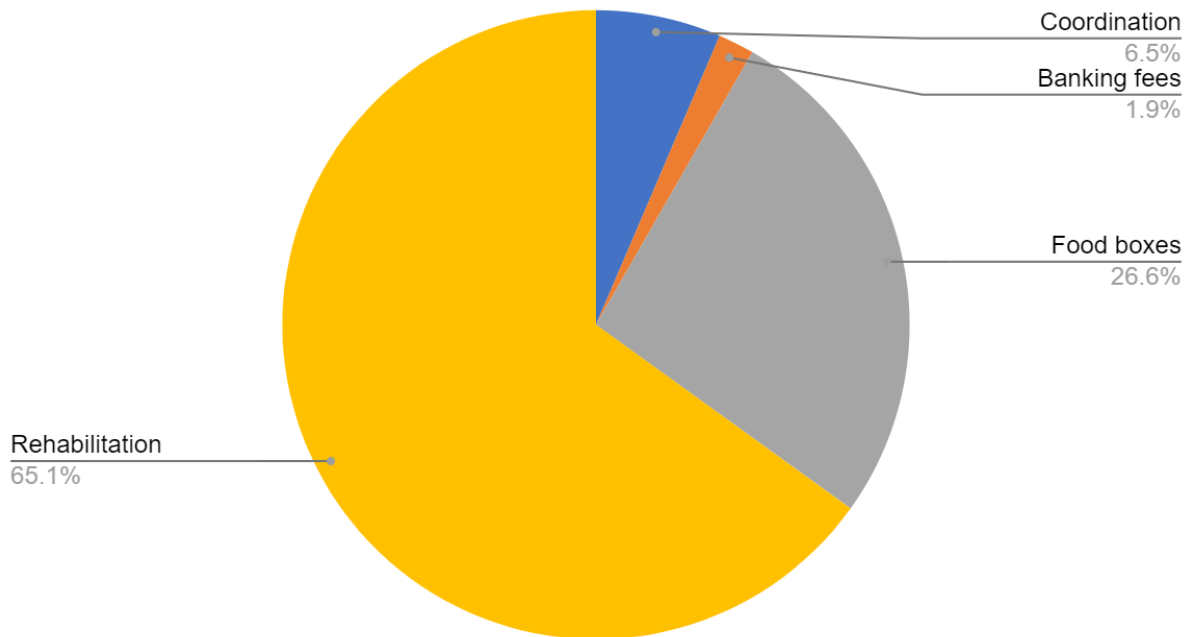
Findings:

It is to be noted that from the 35,000 USD raised, only **5,000 USD were received until now** and this is due to the Lebanese banking system exercising some sort of capital controls and paperwork. Thus, **the following findings will be based on the amount received and the interventions made to date.**

The amount was divided as following:

Type	Amount in USD
Coordination	320.63
Banking and Facebook Fees	92.20
Food boxes	1321.72
Rehabilitation	3232.63
Total	4967.18

Allocation of budget



The largest part of the amount went into rehabilitation with some 65% going into the repairing of houses, 27% went for food boxes while 6.5% went into coordination.

The initiative has **supported 23 families** with 21 receiving food kits and 2 rehabilitation of their houses. A further 9 families are set to receive food boxes in the coming days.

When surveyed, all beneficiaries were highly satisfied with **100% of respondents rating their satisfaction level towards the intervention a 5/5**. Some went even further with describing it 'By far the best relief intervention that they ever experienced since the Beirut blast' singling out Mr. Ghostine for his compassion, quick response, understanding of the situation and effectiveness. Moreover, the food kits recipient beneficiaries were highly satisfied by the quality of products received saying that they matched their needs, a testament to the intervention's adaptability by providing needed help.

Pictures:



Food boxes distribution



Before and After - Beneficiary's entry door



Before and After – Beneficiary's balcony roof